



A Message from your President

By Sheree Moser

The semester has ended and the holiday season comes so fast once Thanksgiving is over that it makes my head spin! Right after Thanksgiving I went to ACTE in Atlanta for the conference. My trip to Atlanta was affirming and enlightening in regards to our profession. It is so heartwarming to spend time with other Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) professionals who are intelligent, dedicated, and fun to be around. Cheryl Timm, Ronita Jacobsen and I were very impressed with the Georgia FCS teachers who sponsored the hospitality room for the participants. There were gift bags once or twice each day, numerous fundraising events (including \$500 cash prizes and an embroidery sewing machine to name two of the bigger prizes) and a few vendors. As always, the program was

very good and we attended sessions that were informative and insightful.

Before I could get this article completed, another school shooting took place and the lives of families were changed forever. Whenever a tragedy like this happens, it reminds me



of how important the things we teach are to all of the children and families within our country. As I finish each semester within my "Parenting" course, we address the issues related to crises families may face

within their lifetimes. My students are always touched by the thought of losing a child and cannot imagine how difficult that is for parents. The things we teach about dealing with crises, creating positive relationships, the importance of communication, constructive conflict resolution, optimal development of children, how to recognize and deal with people and problems are things all families can benefit learning. I have never understood why our classes have been treated as "fluff" or "electives", when so much of what we teach can work to help our society become more civil and compassionate.



SAVE THE DATE!!

WHAT: FCSTN 2013 Legislative Workshop

WHEN: February 4 from 7:30am-3pm

WHERE: State Capitol

Cost \$15 per person

Details coming over the listserv

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Inspired and Grateful

By Cheryl Timm

You've probably heard of southern hospitality and maybe even had a chance to experience it. If you haven't, I hope you will sometime. As a first time attendee of the ACTE International Summit on Excellence in Career and Tech Education held in Atlanta Georgia, I was privileged to experience southern hospitality and a great opportunity for professional growth!

My first word to describe the summit is HUGE! After picking up my registration packet, I searched for the program guide and found it to be like a Christmas catalog! It was full of sessions to choose from, displays to see and many, many exhibitors at the Career Expo. There was so much to choose from it was a first timer's professional dream and a nightmare all the same! I wanted to see, experience it and hear it all!

The next word that comes to mind about the summit was INSPIRING! From the opening panel of speakers to the

sessions and exhibitors, I was inspired to advocate for Career and Technical Education and FCS even more. I heard and saw evidence of CTE raising the bar in educating students to apply the processes learned in the classroom. A message that stood out for me is that students need to be provided opportunities to understand the link between a successful personal life and career life. Industry demands that students come equipped with life skills such as communication skills, basic math skills and the ability to apply those skills. We need to teach kids to think and reason, not just regurgitate information. **As FCS teachers we have the programs and curriculum already in place and we are doing just that.** My question to myself was "Do I let others know that I am doing that? Am I letting the right people know that FCS teaches "learning agility?"

The Career Expo can only be described by the word FREE! Imagine a room larger

than the size of a football field, full of vendors and information booths ready to hand out free items to use in the classroom, free resource materials, free sample copies of textbooks, free pamphlets and brochures and of course free ideas and advice. Thank goodness we were given free bags to carry all the stuff in!

Finally, my final word to describe this first time experience is GRATEFUL! I am very grateful to FCSTN for this opportunity to attend the ACTE Summit. I am more motivated than ever to assist in the work of the organization and to promote our profession. I am also grateful for the Kentucky FCS teachers who hosted the FCS Hospitality Room. It was a great place to network with FCS teachers from across the nation and to be treated to their southern hospitality. They really made us feel welcome! Each day we were given gift bags that contained snacks and interesting materials for us to learn about the region or to use in our classroom.



Cheryl and Ronita eyeing the Harley at Hard Rock Café.

2012 ACTE VISION Conference



FCS and Ag Teachers present in Atlanta. Such a fun group to hang out with!



Cheryl, Sheree & Ronita at the Tea Room.

Family & Consumer Science makes the News!!

By Sheree Moser

It was both an honor and somewhat sad to have an article finally published in the Omaha World Herald on Sunday, December 9th about the shortage of Family and Consumer Sciences teachers only to have our name worded incorrectly. (<http://www.omaha.com/article/20121209/NEWS/712099946>)

Not only did several of my students from the UNL program email the journalist right away, but I had an apology message from the author. Whether the name was exactly correct or not, the press is greatly needed. The article pointed out the different subjects we teach within our courses that many within the



general public do not recognize as being a part of our profession. Another important aspect of the article was the courses and subjects that can be taught by FCS teachers within Nebraska in addition to our 'usual' content: Health Education, Health Occupations, and Nutrition and Food Science. The program is rigorous within the post-secondary FCS Education programs, with the UNL students taking 16 hours of Chemistry, Foods & Nutrition; 3-6 hours of Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion De-

sign; 9 hours in Family Science and Human Development; 6 hours in Early Childhood Development; 9 hours in Family Financial Management; and 44 hours within the Teacher Education program. There are 15-16 hours left for the students to take within an emphasis area. Become familiar with what it is the students are taking within the post-secondary programs you may be promoting to them. Norma Nealeigh, Yvonne Moody, Judy Lindberg, Carol Erwin and I are here if you have any questions or want some information for your students about our programs. Here are the websites for all three of the institutions' programs within our state:

Chadron State

(<http://www.csc.edu/fcs/>)

Wayne State

(<http://www.wsc.edu/admission/majors/>) (http://www.wsc.edu/advising_services/services/adv_handbook/alpha_list/majorsFamily_Consumer_Sciences_Edu.pdf)

UNL

(<http://cehs.unl.edu/cyaf/undergrad/fcs/fcsEd.shtml>)

It takes a village to raise a child and it will take all of us to continue to promote and raise the consciousness of the individuals, families, administrators, community players and policy makers about what we do and why it is

important. Part of my goal this year as your President is to provide you with the information and support you need to validate your program. I have sent out letters to each member for you to share with your school administration. **Your charge now is to send me the names of the business, industry and community partners within your school district that you would like me to send out a letter on your behalf.** I will share the importance of FCS education, the way our courses have changed to meet the needs to individuals and families and how it will benefit your students and community to support your FCS program. **Please email me before the Legislative Workshop on February 4th.** I will be sending all of the Legislators a letter before that time as well.

District 2 Meets at HyVee

By Jan Smaus

On a sunny day in July, District 2 members met in Lincoln for a day filled with fun, learning, shopping and much conversation. Judeen Price, our district chairperson, organized the activities.

We met at Hy-Vee on "O" street, where Anne, the florist, started off with a quiz - "Can you name this flower?" Now I know how the kids feel when we give them those pop quizzes! But thankfully no grades were taken - since we only knew a few correct names. She demonstrated how to create a flower arrange-



ment starting with the four design elements . . . line, focal, filler and greens. She shared a few tricks for keeping your beautiful bouquet of flowers a little longer.

After the demonstration we ate lunch at Hy-Vee . . . so many choices! During our

lunch Kyla Wize, Youth Education Director for Nebraska Pork Producers shared information about their offerings and a few events coming up. She plans to join us at the 2013 NCE conference. If you would like to visit with Kyla her e-mail address is kyla@nepork.org or phone number is 402-472-2528. Her office is located in Lincoln.

For our last "treat" we traveled to Good Things, located on the south corner of 30th and "O" street. Here we heard a little about this historical place and how it became a very unique shop in Lincoln.

Alliance FCCLA travels to Clusters

By Cathy Kloch

For the second year in a row three Alliance FCCLA members traveled to CLUSTERS, FCCLA regionals, and presented workshops on leadership. Ellie Applegarth, Shelby Ackerman, and Ashley Quick traveled to Denver last year and to Reno this fall.

The three members are all local and district officers. Ellie has had the benefit

of leadership training as a State Officer and has worked to train Shelby and Ashley in a variety of leadership activities. In Denver, last year, groups were larger and they used a lot of activities to help students identify their own leadership traits.

In Reno, and at our local district conference, this fall, they helped students prepare a roadmap for their own success as leaders.

This year the workshop groups were smaller. This gave them a chance to discuss National Programs, STAR, and offices beyond the local level.

They are an awesome trio who are dedicated to passing on the opportunities available to students in FCCLA.



Shelby Ackerman, Ellie Applegarth, and Ashley Quick.



Shelby Ackerman, Ellie Applegarth, Michael Benjamin (the National FCCLA Director), and Ashley Quick

Battle Creek Clothing Class Makes Quilts for Kids

By Angie Mann

After making several quilts for a district FCCLA service project, the members of the Battle Creek High School clothing and textiles class have been hard at work making preemie quilts for the organization "Quilts for Kids" based in Lincoln, NE.

The "Quilts for Kids" quilts will be donated to sick children in hospitals in Lincoln, Omaha and Grand Island. The class, which is taught by Angie Mann really enjoyed working on this service project.



NEBRASKA CAREER EDUCATION STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

By Jan Brandt

Ninety-two Nebraska Career Education students, who received national awards earlier this year, were recently recognized in Lincoln.

Nebraska Education Commissioner Roger Breed and Gov. Dave Heineman recognized the state's career education students receiving first, second, third place or finalist awards during national leadership and skills competition held by their respective Career Student Organizations. The students were recognized during a November ceremony at the Nebraska State Capitol Rotunda. The following students are members of the Nebraska Center for Student Leadership, which includes student members of DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FEA, FFA, PBL and SkillsUSA.

FCCLA Award Winners:

- Nicole Weimers, Becca Laughlin and Jessica Stephens of Elm Creek High

School

- Shawn Welch, Colton Aspenleiter, Josh Leas, Regan Garey, Shaylee Schroeder and Kylee Heinzle of Medicine Valley High School
- Grace Carhart of Bloomfield High School
- Aubrey Dinslage of Battle Creek High School
- Megan Bydalek of Franklin High School
- Brenna Carlstrom of St. Edward High School
- Tawny Mohr of West Boyd High School
- Chandler Classen, Linsey Armstrong, Elliot Janssen and Kali Einsphar of Logan View High School
- Allison Becker, Allison Ludwig and Emily Morrow of O'Neill High School
- Molly Lambert, Tami Jo Marcellus and Dawn

Klabenes of Chambers High School

- Emily Ratkovec and Elizabeth Revelo of Cozad High School
- Neligh-Oakdale FCCLA Chapter

FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) is a national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work and societal issues through family and consumer science education.

FEA Award Winners:

- Crystal Ishii of Omaha Burke High School
- FEA (Future Educators Association) is an international student organization dedicated to supporting young people interested in education-related careers.

ACTE Vision Does Not Disappoint

By Sheree Moser

Representing our state at the ACTE Vision Conference in Atlanta was an honor and privilege. Family and Consumer Sciences was well represented and Ronita, Cheryl and I tried to attend as many different types of offerings as possible. The displays and vendors are so numerous and variable unlike any conference I have ever attended. Cheryl, being a first time attendee was stunned at the 200 vendors. It actually took us three trips to go through all of the booths we were interested in visiting, so it would be impossible to share everything we found. To see the entire list of vendors, visit the ACTE CareerTech Vision website Vendor Resource Center at https://www.acteonline.org/vendor_resource.aspx

Some of my favorite exhibits at the Expositions included:

No Kid Hungry campaign is committed to ending childhood hunger in America. Go online to www.NoKidHungry2.org/schools to sign up and join the online team. Participants will learn about childhood hunger and the power of healthier food choices while helping other kids get healthy food.

Movin' On: Your College and Career Guide is a magazine published each fall that shares information about hot jobs, choosing the right career and finding sources for financial aid for college. These can be published by post-secondary institutions with an informational section about their programs related to Family and Consumer Sciences subject matter. These are custom printed and then provided to interested high schools with our state. This is definitely a great way for post-secondary programs to promote our career areas, so I am going to see if it will be possible to get some printed with the FCS Education programs highlighted for next year.

Noble Hour is a free online program created to help your organization document their community service. Your group creates a profile and begins documenting all of the volunteer, internship, mentorship, or paid employment opportunities they are participating in. The site includes a free searchable database of what other organizations are doing and you can instantly verify hours online or via email. It is also a great way to promote your organization and its mission, opportunities, and news on social media networks directly from the site. Check is out at www.noblehour.com/register.



The opening general session included a welcome by the ACTE Executive Director, Jan Bray and a panel of education and industry leaders. These included Ray McNulty of Penn Foster, Dr. John D. Barge who is the Georgia State School Superintendent, Dennis Branch Vice President of Human Resources for AGCO, Randy Dorn who is the Washington State Superintendent of Instruction and Michael Wiggins, Executive Vice President of Human Resources for Southwire Company. The task of this group was to share their perspectives, concerns, and ideas on how educators need to move forward to close the skills gap experienced today and build a prepared workforce. The group shared the types of career preparation programs that are working well, including internship and mentoring from industry partners. They also shared the need for academics to be incorporated into all CATE courses in practical ways. The need for 4-year degrees was also a hot topic and it was unanimous that all students do NOT need to attend that level to be successful in the careers that are needed within business and industry today.

Some of the other sessions, including Family and Consumer Sciences related offerings I attended and found interesting were:

“Mentoring and Retaining Quality CTE Teachers” presented by Mary Jo Self from Oklahoma State University shared how they have developed partnerships and field-based teams to support new Career and Technical Education teachers within their state. The team consists of the new teacher, a mentor, administrator and higher education representative.

“Sharing Creative Ways to Engage Students” presented by Tim Dwyer of Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology. Some of the ideas shared included having students write their own exams, participating in team-based learning, incorporating technology into the daily lessons. The presenter tried to demonstrate how students could collectively set their own learning objectives, define learning management standards, and facilitate peer support to improve their learning skills.

ACTE Vision Does Not Disappoint cont'd

"Finding the Right Fit: Essential Elements of Hiring Career Technical Teachers" was presented by Bridgette Chandler and Bob Kimbrell from Athens State University in Alabama. These individuals are responsible for training and certifying the teachers hired by districts who are issued a provisional certificate. ALL of these individuals are hired because of their expertise within the technical skill (accounting, culinary arts, welding, etc) and do not necessarily have a bachelor's degree.

"Tools for Everyday Living: Using Technology to Engage Learners in Clothing and Textiles Content" presented by Dr. Lindsey Shirley of Utah State University was a great resource for FCS teachers if you are looking at a complete online system for having students learn about this subject area. Dr. Shirley has done a great deal of work to develop her website and the materials for her students at Utah State. Here is the link to her web page with resources you can use for Textiles, Clothing and Design.

<http://www.clothingandtextiles.org/index.html>

Assessment was a big part of the offerings which included:

"From Apprentice to Masters Certification: Professional FDRP Hospitality Certification" presented by Bernard Martinage of the Federation of Dining Room Professionals in Fernandina Beach, Florida.

"Five Things CTE Teachers Must Know and Do to Plan Instruction and Assessment" presented by Nancy Headrick of the Southern Regional Education Board in Atlanta, Georgia.

"Performance Assessment in CTE: Focusing on the Cognitive, Psychomotor and the Affective Domains" presented by Bart Washer and Lori Cochran of the University of Central Missouri.

"A Vision for Success: Interpreting and Maximizing Assessment and Certification Data" presented by Peggy Wild of Indiana College and Career Pathways Coordinator in Indianapolis and Lori Myers of AAFCS.

Technology sessions I would have liked to attend:

"60 iPad Apps for Teaching Success in 60 Minutes" presented by Barry Brantley of Delgado Community College in New Orleans

"Chief Architect: Interior and Exterior Design Program for CATE Programs" presented by Debra Gray, company representative from Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.

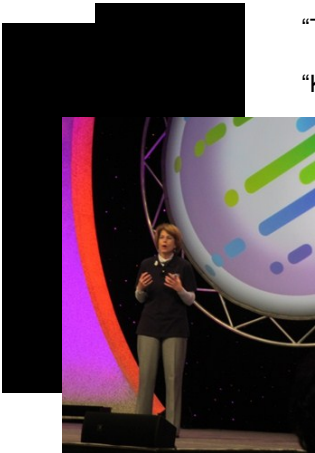
"Technology in the Classroom: Too Much or Not Enough" presented by Dr. Rodney Boyes of Today's Class.

"KP Education Systems" is a mobile ready curriculum resource featuring Culinary Arts, Food Science, FACS, Work Ethic and Hotel Front Desk just to name a few. The link to this website is:

<http://kpcurriculum.com/#type=perspective&id=education>

Reality Check by Grant Baldwin of Fair Grove, Missouri was one vendor I visited at the exposition, but could not get to his session to hear about his program. I think many of you are aware of the materials he has developed along with some FCS teachers. Not only is Grant a motivational speaker, but he has some great ideas of how to incorporating core academics into preparation for life after high school. Here is the link to his website: <http://grantbaldwin.com/home/>.

I hope this motivates some of you to think about and start planning to attend some of the national conferences related to Family and Consumer Sciences and Career and Technical Education. The *vision* and perspectives obtained by listening to educators from all over the country really helps us evaluate what we are doing here. These experiences are the types we need to be relevant, competitive and remain viable as a profession. To have more FCS Educators participate says a great deal about our dedication to improving and staying up-to-date.



FCSTN has a cool new item for sale.....

The FCSTN Store will be selling iPad covers for \$20. The covers are black and have Family and Consumer Sciences Education "The key to unlocking your career" printed in white on the cover.

To order the iPad cover or any other items from the FCSTN Store contact:

Carmen Johnson
Columbus Scotus High School
1554 18th Ave.
Columbus, NE 68601
School: 402-564-7165
Home: (402) 764-2009
cjohnso1@esu7.org

or

Marla Prusa
Howells-Dodge Consolidated
P. O. Box 159
Howells, NE 68641
School: 402-986-1621
Home: (402)-986-1132
mprusa@esu7.org



IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW.....

Jan 19, 2013—NEXUS Workshop-Grand Island

Febr 4, 2013—Legislative Workshop-Lincoln

May 15, 2013—Melinda Holcombe Scholarship & the Developer Awards Due (Applications can be found on the ACTE website under the organization tab)

June 4-6, 2013—NCE Conference

Check out the ACTEN Website
-www.actenebraska.org